transitional taper distinct from said asymmetrical "V" shaped tip.

2. (Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 1 further comprising:

a depth gauge positioned substantially with said blade whereby depth of penetration of said blade is monitored.

3. (Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 2 said depth gauge further comprising:

one or more lines placed onto said blade at a user desirable distance from said point.

4. (Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 3 whereby:

one or more of said lines of said depth gauge are formed by laser marking.

5. (Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 2 said depth gauge further comprising:

one or more lines placed substantially perpendicular to said central axis of said tip holding shaft and between said point and said tip holding shaft.

6. (Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 1 further comprising:

a handle of substantially cylindrical form connected near said first end of said tip holding shaft.

7. (Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 1 whereby:

said sharpened edge of said first leg of said "V" shape is substantially formed from one or more linear tapers extending from substantially near said central axis of said tip holding shaft toward said first leg.

8. (Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 1 whereby:

said first leg is angled approximately 12 degrees from the central axis of said tip holding shaft.

9. (Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 8 whereby:

said second leg is angled approximately 10 degrees from the central axis of said tip holding shaft

10. (Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 9 whereby:

said second leg deviates from said 10 degrees as it approaches said point of said "V"shape to an angle of approximately 30 degrees relative to said central shaft axis.

11. (Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 10 whereby:

said second leg deviation is further placed slightly across said central shaft axis toward said first leg and said point is located across said central shaft axis toward said first leg.

12. (Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 9 whereby:

said second leg deviates slightly across said central shaft axis toward said first leg and said point is placed across said central shaft axis toward said first leg.

13. (Currently amended) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 1 whereby:

said tip holding shaft is slightly smaller in a diameter or a width than said broad portion of said "V" shape and ~~a~~ said transitional taper is placed between said "V" shape and said tip holding shaft.

14. (Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife as set forth in claim 3 whereby:

said first leg is approximately .090 inches in length and one or more of said lines are positioned proximally from said point approximately .108 inches, and said point is positioned across said central shaft axis toward said first leg approximately .003 inches

15.(Currently amended) A radial optic neurotomy knife for performing a radial optic neurotomy procedure comprising:

an asymmetrical "V" shaped tip having a distal point and a broad portion substantially

opposite said point, a first leg of said "V" shape having a sharpened edge, and a second leg of said "V" shape having a dulled edge rotationally opposite said first leg; and

a tip holding shaft having a central axis, a width less than said broad portion of said "V" shaped tip, a first end having an attached handle, and a second end attached with a transitional taper substantially near said broad portion of said "V" shaped tip; and

a depth gauge in the form of one or more lines placed onto said asymmetrical "V" shaped tip or said transitional taper, whereby depth of penetration of said blade is monitored.

16.(Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife for performing a radial optic neurotomy procedure as set forth in claim 15 whereby:

one or more of said lines forming said depth gauge comprise laser marks.

17.(Original) The radial optic neurotomy knife for performing a radial optic neurotomy procedure as set forth in claim 15 whereby:

said point of said asymmetrical "V" shaped tip is located slightly across said central shaft axis toward said first leg and said second leg extends slightly across said central shaft axis toward said first leg.

18. (Currently amended) A method of performing a radial optic neurotomy surgical procedure as a treatment for central retinal vein occlusion , the steps comprising:

forming an asymmetrical "V" shaped tip having a point and a broad portion and a first leg having a sharpened edge and a second leg having a dulled edge; and

forming a transitional taper near said broad portion extending away from said point; and

connecting said transitional taper opposite said broad portion with a tip holding shaft having a central axis and an attached handle; and

placing said point substantially near said central axis; and

inserting said "V" shaped tip point radial to an optic nerve head whereby said dulled edge is nearest said optic nerve head; and

advancing said "V" shaped tip a specified distance; and

atraumatically passing said dulled edge of said "V" shaped tip alongside a central retinal artery and a central retinal vein whereby a compartment syndrome may be relieved by relaxing a cribiform plate, a scleral ring, or an adjacent sclera thereby reducing the possibility of hemorrhage.

19. (Currently amended) The method of performing a radial optic neurotomy surgical procedure as a treatment for central retinal vein occlusion as set forth in claim 18 further comprising:

forming a depth gauge with said "V" shaped tip or said transitional taper; and

reading said depth gauge as said "V" shaped tip is inserted; and

limiting said inserting of said "V" shaped tip pursuant to said reading of said depth gauge whereby said specified distance of said "V" shaped tip advancing is achieved.

20. (Currently amended) The method of performing a radial optic neurotomy surgical procedure as a treatment for central retinal vein occlusion as set forth in claim 19 said forming of said depth gauge further comprising:

forming one or more lines on said "V" shaped tip or said transitional taper substantially perpendicular with said central axis of said tip holding shaft.